

REMARKS

Reconsideration of the application is respectfully requested.

Applicants and Applicants' Attorney would like to thank the Examiner for his time and valuable suggestions made during the phone interview on March 3, 2004. The Examiner's efforts are greatly appreciated and are a credit to the Examining Corps.

During that interview, the Examiner stated his belief that the proposed amendments discussed during the March 3 phone interview overcome the current rejections in the November 5, 2003 Office Action (Paper No. 12). This response amends independent Claims 11 and 15 in conformance with those proposed amendments. Support for the amended claims can be found throughout the specification and drawings generally, and in particular, with reference to pp. 19-25 of the specification and the corresponding drawings. No new subject matter has been added.

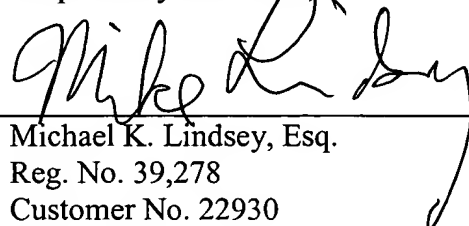
In addition, the title of the application has been amended to more accurately reflect the scope of the claims.

Applicants believe that the pending claims are now in a condition for allowance. If, for any reason, the Examiner is unable to allow the application and feels that a telephone conference would be helpful to resolve any issues, the Examiner is respectfully requested to contact the undersigned attorney at 312-595-1169.

Date: March 17, 2004

HOWREY SIMON ARNOLD & WHITE, LLP
1299 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20004
Telephone: (312) 595-1169
Facsimile: (312) 595-1239

Respectfully submitted,


Michael K. Lindsey, Esq.
Reg. No. 39,278
Customer No. 22930
Attorneys for Applicants